

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: MAY 16, 2022**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice President Brad Bray, Member Jack Dodd, and County Auditor Jessica Secrease. Absent from the meeting was County Attorney Alan Wilson.

The meeting was called to order by Major Gary Cook and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and President Paul Wyman offered a word of prayer.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the May 2, 2022, regular meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray; Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS / RECONGINITION:**

The Commissioners congratulated the following county employees, and Commissioner Dodd read their Employee Service Awards into the record:

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
Clifford Shockey	25	Charles Camp	5
Brandi Jeffries	20	James Clark II	5
Christopher Cramer	15	Frederick Foxx	5
David Johnson	15	Brittani Hinson	5
Justin Markley	15	Lisa Leonard	5
Dawn Hyman	10	Marine Loveless	5
Charles Pickard	10	Yves Shockley	5
Jennifer Sexton	10	Zachary Tigrett	5
Adam Whitfield	10		

### **IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:**

#### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:**

##### ***Work Release Electrical Service Repair:***

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the quote from J&J Electric Company to replace the electrical service that has some dry rot around the transformer from the end of the building at Work Release. The cost of the repair will be \$11,097.00. Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay for this out of the Building Upgrades Account under the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138.47243). Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve the replacement of the electrical service that has dry rot around the transformer at Work Release with the cost of \$11,097.00 to be paid out of the Building Upgrades Account under the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138.47243) as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

##### ***Jail Wall Construction in Dispatch Area:***

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the quote for the Jail wall construction in the dispatch area for secure storage to be complete for the total cost of \$3,524.00. Most of this cost is to replace the steel door. Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay out the Building & Structure Repair Account under the LIT - Special Purpose Fund (1114.32510). Commissioner Bray made a motion to approve the jail wall construction in the dispatch area for storage for a total cost of \$3,524.00 to be paid out the Building & Structure Repair Account under the LIT - Special Purpose Fund (1114.32510) as presented. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

##### ***Replacement of the Strainer on the New Chiller at the Government Center:***

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented the quote from North Mechanical Services to replace the three inch strainer on the new chiller at the Government Center for a total cost of \$2,279.00. Mr. Stonestreet would like to

pay for this out of the Building Repair Account under the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138.47241). Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve to replace the three inch strainer on the new chiller at the Government Center to be paid out of the Building Repair Account under the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138.47241) for a total cost of \$2,279.00 as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

## **HOWARD HAVEN:**

### ***Approval of New Resident at Howard Haven:***

Howard Haven Director Jennifer Brower submitted an application for a new resident to be approved as a private pay. The resident's name is on file in the Auditor's Office. Commissioner Wyman stated that the resident was approved to move in subject to a 90-day probation period. A motion made by Commissioner Dodd to approve the new resident subject to a 90-day probation period. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Ms. Brower would also like to thank Jerry Paul, President of the Howard County Veterans Memorial Corp., for representing the VFW Post 1152 and the Howard County Veterans Memorial Corp for bringing over a thousand dollars' worth of food, paper, and supplies for the residents.

**\*\*\*The Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting recessed at 4:10 p.m. to open the Public Hearing for North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council's final report for the COVID Phase III Grant.\*\*\***

## **PUBLIC HEARING FOR NORTH CENTRAL INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL:**

### ***Public Hearing of Final Report of the COVID Phase III Grant:***

North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council Member Steven Ray presented the final report of the COVID Phase III Grant. Mr. Ray stated that over the last year, Howard County expended over \$209,728.00 to provide mental health services for domestic violence, substance abuse, and suicide prevention. Howard County also expended \$17,628.00 in local match dollars. The yearlong project reimbursed Turning Point, the Domestic Violence Shelter, and the Gilead House for operations, staff wages, and services such as transportation with over 7,000 contacts and serving over 2,300 individuals. President Paul Wyman thanked Mr. Ray for pursuing this grant and stated that the grant came at a very needed time for the non-profit organizations.

**\*\*\*The Public Hearing was adjourned at 4:12 p.m., and the Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting reconvened.\*\*\***

## **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:**

Howard County Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on May 6, 2022, in the amount of \$905,199.07 were submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Payroll Expenses:** The Commissioners' Payroll Expenses for payment on May 6, 2022, in the amount of \$905,199.07 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid May 16, 2022, in the amount of \$1,467,468.80 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and the motion carried.
4. **Monthly Reports:** Auditor Jessica Secrease presented the following reports to be received into the record:
  - i. Treasurer's March 2022 Monthly Report

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Resident Brad Semon of 10954 E 100 S, Greentown, Indiana:* Mr. Semon stated he would like to see a moratorium put in place to have renewable energy placed on the roofs of the buildings at the new Industrial Park. He stated that he believes this money collected could be used to fight hunger since there is a food shortage going on at this time.

*Resident Clee Oliver of 5768 W 00 NS, Kokomo, Indiana:* Mr. Oliver stated that he was reviewing the previous minutes from July 18, 2011 or 2012 and stated at that time, there were 24 administration meetings on record. Mr. Oliver stated that it is his understanding that there was an administrative meeting before the Commissioners' Meeting two weeks ago. Commissioner Dodd wanted to make it clear that there wasn't an administrative meeting before the Commissioners' Meeting two weeks ago. President Paul Wyman stated that there is a law that states that the Commissioners can have administrative meetings before the regular meeting. Mr. Oliver gave the Commissioners a copy of the informal public access information. President Paul Wyman stated that there is a Commissioners' Meeting at 4:00 p.m., and the Commissioners have an office that they share. He explained that all three commissioners have a mail box that allows them to get their mail before the meetings. He reiterated that there was no administrative meeting going on at that time that Mr. Oliver was referring to. Mr. Oliver stated that on February 11, 2022, he asked Auditor Jessica Secrease if he could get a copy of the ARP Plan. Mr. Oliver also stated that he had left messages with County Attorney Alan Wilson on two occasions to get copies of the ARP Plan. He stated that as of April 28, 2022, he hasn't had any contact with County Attorney Alan Wilson. President Paul Wyman stated that County Attorney Alan Wilson is out of the office, and, upon his return, President Paul Wyman will get with him about this matter. Mr. Oliver stated that he had one more concern – that the Commissioners' Meetings aren't being made public. President Paul Wyman stated that every year, the Commissioners approve the next year's meeting dates and that they are made public. Mr. Oliver explained that he was asking about the special meetings not the regular Commissioners meetings. He would like those emailed to him as well as being emailed to the newspaper. President Paul Wyman stated that he will discuss this matter with County Attorney Alan Wilson.

*Resident Jerry Paul, President of the Howard County Veterans Memorial Corp.:* Mr. Paul stated that he would like to see an ordinance put in place that any County property that has a flag pole should fly the POW flag. This flag is representing the 51 men still missing from the Vietnam War, and one of those missing is from Howard County. Also, Mr. Paul stated that he would like the flowers downtown and around the city and the Veterans Memorial Park to match to have one color scheme, such as for Breast Cancer Awareness. Mr. Paul gave an update on the collections of pop tabs for Ronald McDonald's House. He is no longer collecting the pop tabs or donating to the Ronald McDonald's House. Mr. Paul shared that he is now supporting Ainsley Angeles here in Kokomo.

***There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time,  
the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Bray.  
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.***

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

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PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

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ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

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JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

**ATTEST:**

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JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

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